

In the Claims

Please amend the claims, as follows:

Cancel claim 1

2. (currently amended) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said body and said neck have adjoining means for providing a tightly fitting neck-body interface so that the neck can be securely mounted to said body by said mounting means.

3. (previously presented) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim 2 wherein said adjoining means comprises: a neck block attached to said body;
said neck block having a receiving recess for the bottom of said neck; and
said neck having a bottom approximately the same size as said receiving recess.

4. (currently amended) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said neck block bottom has edges and guides are attached to the bottom of said neck and said guides are of a dimension so that it can securely accommodate the edges of the bottom of said neck.

5. (previously presented) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim 4 wherein said guides are comprised of a self-gliding material.

Cancel claim 6.

Cancel claim 7.

8. (previously presented) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim 17 wherein the head of said height adjustment screw has a knob or lever fixably secured to it in order

to allow the user to easily adjust said height adjustment screw without the need for any tools.

Cancel claim 9.

10. (currently amended) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim ~~1~~ 17 wherein said mounting means comprises neck mounting screws that extend from the neck and are threaded through said body.
11. (currently amended) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim ~~3~~ 10 wherein said mounting means comprises: neck mounting screws that extend through the bottom of said neck; and threaded recesses in said neck block for receiving said neck mounting screws.
12. (currently amended) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim ~~1~~ 17 wherein a spring is inserted in the neck body joint to provide constant pressure on the adjustment means.
13. (currently amended) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim ~~6~~ 3 wherein a spring is inserted between the bottom of the neck block and the bottom of the neck to provide constant pressure on the neck adjustment screw.
14. (currently amended) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim ~~1~~ 17 wherein said mounting means comprises a setscrew in said neck and said setscrew applies pressure between the neck and the body when tightened to fixably secure the neck to the body.
15. (currently amended) The musical instrument as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said neck has a bottom wall and said mounting means comprises a setscrew in the bottom

wall of said neck, said setscrew applying pressure on said neck block to fixably secure the neck to the guitar body.

Cancel claim 16.

17. (previously presented) A stringed musical instrument comprising:

a body;

a neck;

one or more strings stretched over said body and said neck;

mounting means for mounting said neck to said body; and

continually adjustable means to move said neck vertically without changing the angle of said neck relative to said body

wherein said continually adjustable means comprises: a height adjustment screw insert fixably secured to said neck; and

a height adjustment screw extending from the back of said body through said height adjustment screw insert, said height adjustment screw fixably engaging said body to said neck and providing for the adjustment of the vertical height of said neck relative to said body by turning said height adjustment screw in a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction to increase or decrease the distance said neck extends from said body,

said height adjustment screw extending through a trap plate at the back of the instrument body, said trap plate configured to restrict the vertical movement of said height adjustment screw.